

to transistors T1 and T2, as shown in FIG. 5. Notably, Stewart's current source is not connected to an end of the capacitor different from the end to which the power source is connected. Rather, Stewart's FIG. 5 discloses the power source line and the current source line are connected to the same end of the capacitor. As such, Stewart cannot describe or suggest a current source line connected to the other end of the capacitor element, as recited in claim 3.

In response to applicant's arguments, the action mischaracterizes applicant's argument as: "Applic[ant] states that Steward does not teach a first transistor, a second transistor, and a capacitor element connected to the gate electrodes of the first transistor and the second transistor." This statement is not only incorrect, but it ignores the entire point of applicant's prior argument, which is that Stewart does not describe or suggest a power source line connected to one end of the capacitor element, and a current source line connected to the other end of the capacitor element. In particular, Stewart does not describe or suggest a capacitor element having a current source line and a power source connected to different ends.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 3 and its dependent claim 5.

#### ***Claims 6 and 8***

Similarly to claim 3, claim 6 also recites a current source circuit that includes, among other elements, a first transistor, a second transistor, a third transistor, a capacitor element connected to the gate electrodes of the first and second transistors, a power source line connected to one end of the capacitor element and a current source line connected to the other end of the capacitor element. Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 3, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 6 and its dependent claim 8.

#### ***Claims 22, 24, 26 and 28***

Similarly to claim 3, independent claims 22 and 26 each recite a current source circuit including a power source line connected to one end of the capacitor element, and a current source line connected to the other end of the capacitor element. Accordingly, for at least the reasons noted above with respect to claim 3, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 22 and 26 and their respective dependent claims 24 and 28.

***Claim 11***

Claim 11 recites a method for driving a current source circuit that includes, *inter alia*, feeding current supplied from a power source line to a current source line through first and second transistors that are connected in parallel. By contrast, Stewart discloses, in FIG. 5, transistors T1 and T2 that are connected in series. As such, Stewart does not describe or suggest feeding current supplied from the power source line to the current source line *through first and second transistors that are connected in parallel*, as recited in claim 11. For at least these reasons, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 11.

The action ignored applicant's arguments presented with regard to independent claim 11 in response to the previous office action of November 15, 2005. Therefore, applicant again solicits response to these arguments.

***Claim 12***

Claim 12 recites a method for driving a current source circuit having a first transistor, a second transistor and a capacitor element connected to the gate electrodes of the first transistor and the second transistor. The circuit also includes a current source line and a power source line connected to the capacitor element. The method includes connecting the first and second transistors in parallel when a setting operation is performed on the transistors, and in series when current is supplied from the first and second transistors to an object to be driven.

As described above, Stewart does not describe or suggest the circuit as recited in claim 12 in which the *transistors are connected in parallel*, and, accordingly, does not describe or suggest connecting the transistors in parallel when a setting operation is performed, as recited in claim 12. For at least these reasons, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 12.

The action ignored applicant's arguments presented with regard to independent claim 12 in response to the previous office action of November 15, 2005. Therefore, applicant again solicits response to these arguments.

***Claim 19***

Independent claim 19 was added in the prior response and has not been addressed in this action. In particular, the action indicates that claim 19 is rejected as anticipated by Stewart but otherwise provides no rationale for the rejection.

In an effort to advance prosecution, applicant notes that independent claim 19, similarly to claim 3, recites a current source circuit including a power source line connected to *one end of the capacitor element*; and a current source line connected to the *other end of the capacitor element*. Accordingly, for at least the reasons noted above with respect to claim 3, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 19.

#### **Rejections under Section 103**

Claims 4, 7, 20, 23, 25, 27 and 29, each of which depends from one of independent claims 3, 6, 19, 22 or 26, have been rejected as being unpatentable over Stewart in view of Yamagishi (U.S. Patent No. 6,501,466). Yamagishi, which is cited in the action for disclosing a current source system having transistors of a P-channel type, does not remedy the failure of Stewart to describe or suggest the subject matter of the independent claims. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections of claims 4, 7, 20, 23, 25, 27 and 29 for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claims.

#### **Pending Claims 16-18 and 21 Not Addressed in Action**

Independent claim 16 and dependent claims 17, 18 and 21 were added in the prior response, but were not addressed in this action. In particular, while the Office Action Summary indicates that claims 16-18 and 21 are rejected, the action does not otherwise indicate the type or basis of the rejection.

In an effort to advance prosecution, applicant notes that independent claim 16, similarly to claim 3, recites a current source circuit including a power source line connected to *one end of the capacitor element*; and a current source line connected to the *other end of the capacitor element*. Accordingly, for at least the reasons noted above with respect to claim 3, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 16 and its dependent claims 17 and 18.

Claim 21 depends from independent claim 19. For at least the reasons noted above with respect to claim 19, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 21.

#### **Conclusions**

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession

of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

No fee is believed due. Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 30, 2006



Barbara A. Benoit  
Reg. No. 54,777

**Customer No.: 26171**  
Fish & Richardson P.C.  
1425 K Street, N.W.  
11th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005-3500  
Telephone: (202) 783-5070  
Facsimile: (202) 783-2331